



# Sherpa update: towards NNLO

RadioMonteCarLow2 Working Group Meeting

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3rd June 2026

University of Liverpool & Jagiellonian University



LEVERHULME  
TRUST \_\_\_\_\_

## Brief intro to SHERPA

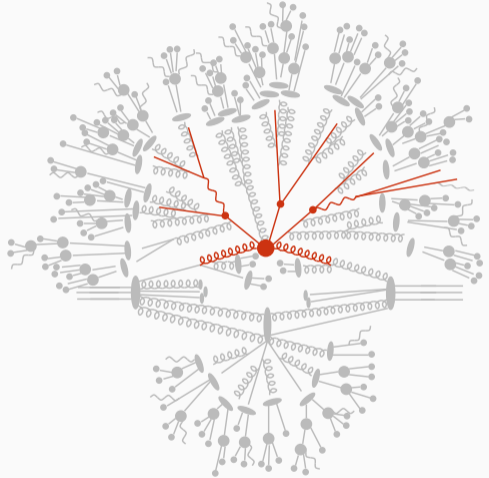
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# The event generator SHERPA

- General-purpose event generator since c. 2004
- Modules for:
  - Matrix element generation<sup>a</sup>

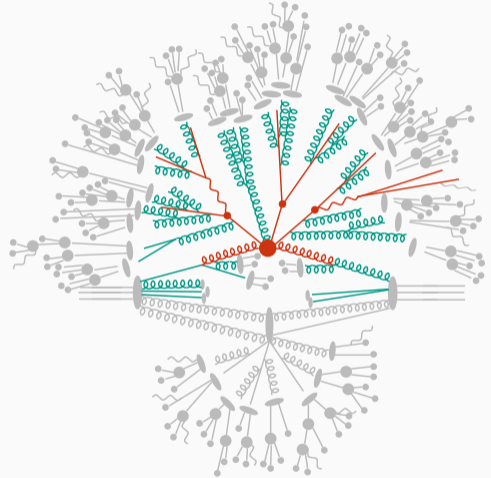
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<sup>a</sup>Tree-level multi-leg inbuilt, loops via interfaces



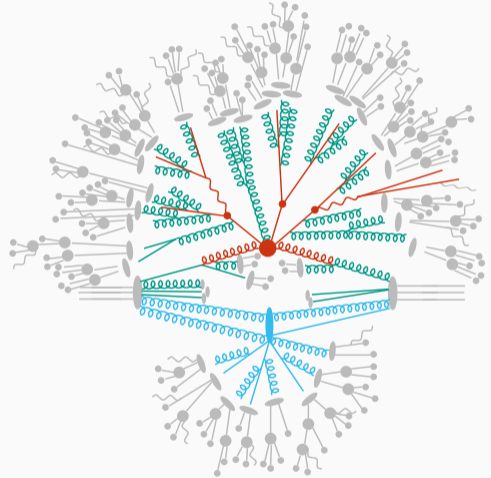
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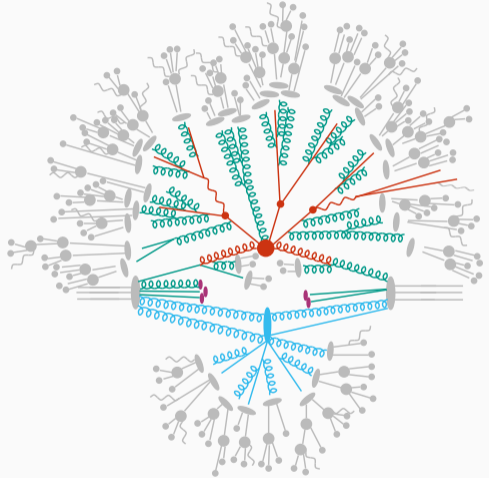
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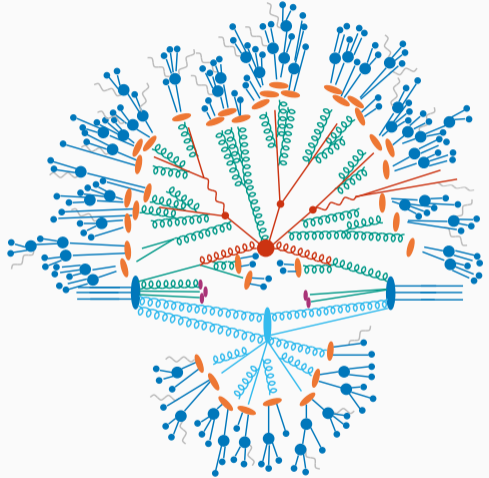
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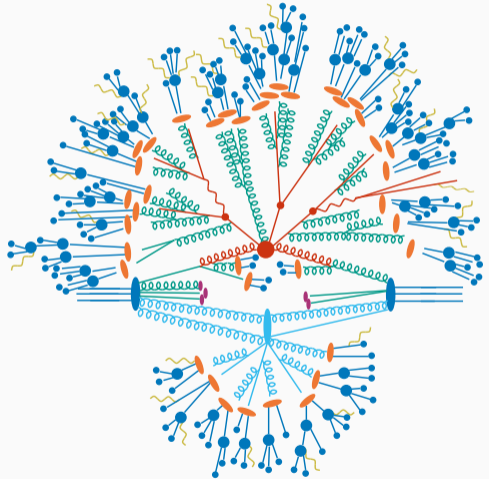
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  - Beam spectra and polarisation



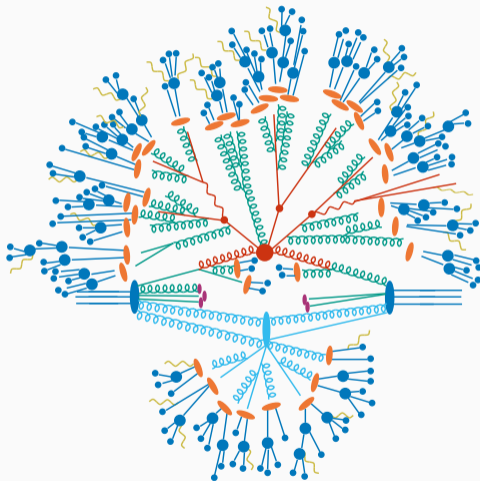
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  - YFS soft-photon resummation
- Analysis and histograms primarily via RIVET



- YFS for lepton-lepton colliders [Krauss, Price, Schönherr '22](#); [Krauss, Price '25](#)

# Features for lepton colliders

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LO for energy scan



LO for radiative return

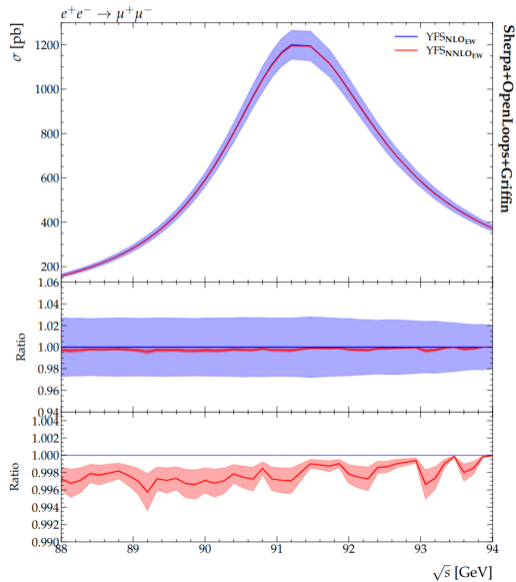
Order counting

## Latest developments

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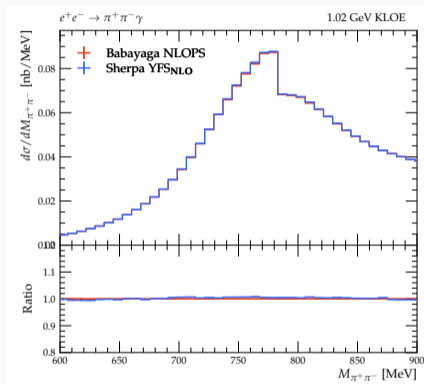
# YFS soft photon resummation

- Automated NLO matched to YFS in EEX framework
- NNLO for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$  for energy scan over Z resonance
- We find NNLO is very consistent with NLO
- Perturbative uncertainty band reduced



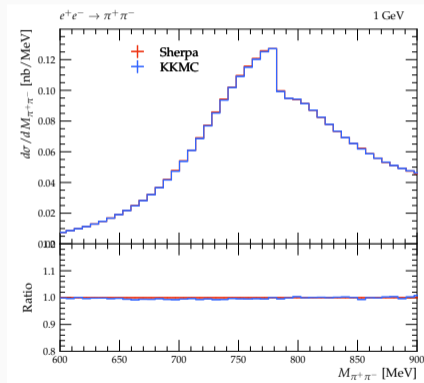
## KLOE small-angle scenario

- SHERPA is NLO  $\pi^+\pi^-\gamma$  matched to YFS
- BABAYAGA is NLO  $\pi^+\pi^-\gamma$  matched to parton shower
- Agreement within 2% across  $M_{\pi\pi}$  spectrum

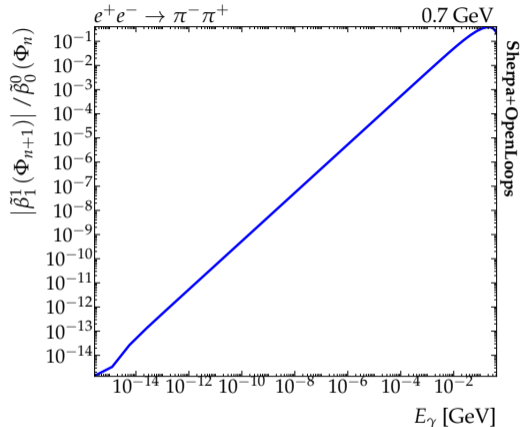


## KLOE small-angle scenario

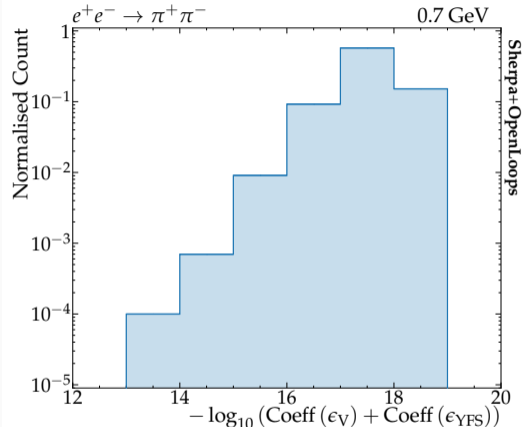
- Comparison at NLO  $\pi^+\pi^-$  with KKMC CEEEX gives 1% agreement
- different paradigms are crucial to estimate theoretical uncertainty beyond naïve MHOU



# YFS as a subtraction scheme



Cancellation of divergences in real

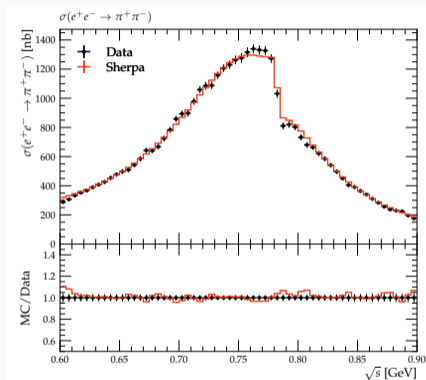


Cancellation of divergences in virtual

Same exercise for NNLO [Krauss, Price '25](#)

# Comparison with data

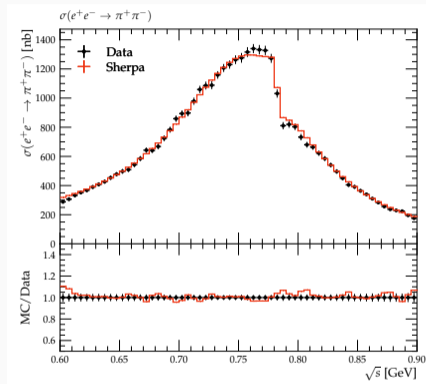
- SHERPA YFS+NLO with pion FF
- HVP in Jegerlehner parametrisation
- Well-describes BESIII data on  $\rho - \omega$  interference at the 5% level
- Improvements needed in matching order and pion treatment for percent-level agreement with more precise data



YFS+NLO vs BESIII

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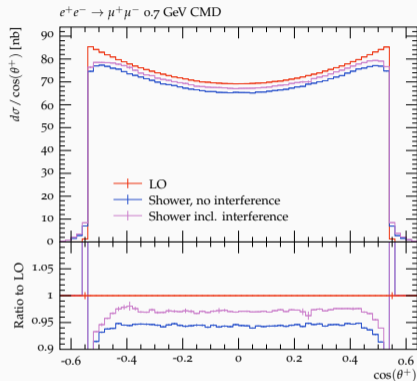


YFS+NLO vs BESIII

More analysis preservation in RIVET needed

# QED parton shower

- Photon radiation (and optionally charged particle production) from all external legs
- QCD shower paradigm: evolution outwards from amplitude
- Allows for equal treatment of ISR, FSR and interference
- Separate ISR and FSR fully implemented and validated
- Radiation off pions in sQED approximation

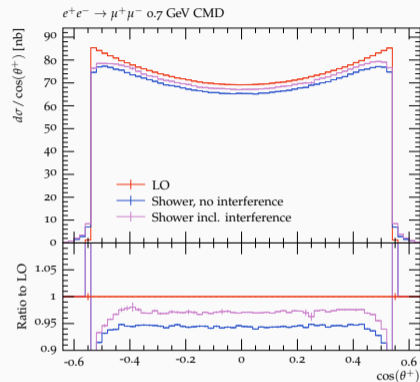


Preliminary

10x more stats for interference

# Comment on initial-final interference

- We see that IF interference effects are very large for the standard LO shower
  - But in SHERPA vs  $\overline{\text{KKMC}}$  YFS, we see no such effect
- effects are probably captured sufficiently at fixed order
- Dedicated study possible in the future with new CEEX → Jérémy's talk

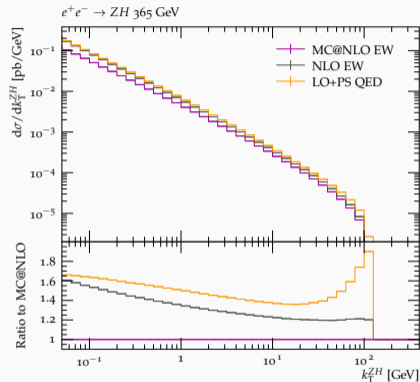


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# Automated NLO parton shower matching

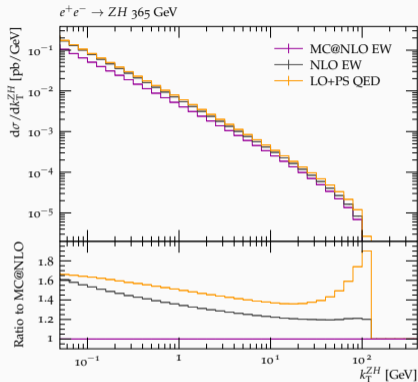
- QED extension of MC@NLO method [Frixione, Webber '02](#)
- Cross section and IR-safe observables to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ , further radiative corrections in shower approximation
- Easily extendable to NLL lepton PDFs
- Application to low-energy **in progress**



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**Limited to NLO, but for any number of legs**

Work to extend to NNLO ongoing within QCD research

## Conclusions

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- Full YFS@NLO EEX framework for precision low-energy
- Application of YFS to MUonE [Price '25](#)
- Treatment of hadrons streamlined
- Efficient phase space for multi-fermion/hadron/photon processes
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## Future plans:

- Cross-validation study of YFS@NLO and NLO+PS
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- Interface to NLL lepton PDFs once available

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Download and manual  
[sherpa-team.gitlab.io](https://sherpa-team.gitlab.io)



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Thanks for listening!